

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. – 43. (canceled)

44. (new) A method implemented in a subscriber unit associated with a wireless network, wherein two or more subscriber units form a multicast group, the method comprising:

receiving a paging message, via one of a plurality of wireless channels, indicating an allocated single wireless channel associated with one or more connection identifiers over which to receive a multicast message, wherein the paging message is sent to the multicast group.

45. (new) The method of claim 44 further comprising receiving the multicast message.

46. (new) The method of claim 44 further comprising receiving the multicast message concurrently with other subscribers in the multicast group.

47. (new) The method of claim 44 wherein the allocated single wireless channel is a dedicated channel.

48. (new) The method of claim 44 wherein only the multicast group decodes the multicast message transmitted over the single wireless channel.

49. (new) A method of multicasting in a wireless network, wherein two or more subscriber units form a multicast group, the method comprising:

allocating a single wireless channel from a plurality of wireless channels for the transmission of a multicast message; and

transmitting a paging message, via one of the plurality of wireless channels, indicating the allocated single wireless channel over which to receive the multicast message;

wherein the allocated single wireless channel is associated with one or more connection identifiers and the paging message is sent to the multicast group.

50. (new) The method of claim 49 further comprising transmitting the multicast message.

51. (new) The method of claim 49 further comprising:

performing a lookup in a routing table adapted to store entries associating the multicast group with an interface identifier; and

performing a lookup in an interface table adapted to associate the interface identifier with the at least one or more subscriber units, wherein each of the at least one or more subscriber units associated with a same interface identifier comprises the multicast group member.

52. (new) The method of claim 49 further comprising:

receiving a join group request from a subscriber unit; and

adding an interface entry in an interface table indicative of an association between the multicast group and the subscriber unit.

53. (new) The method of claim 49 further comprising:

scanning the multicast message; and

parsing a group address to determine if the multicast message is for the multicast group.

54. (new) The method of claim 53 wherein the group address conforms to a protocol and the multicast message is parsed in accordance with the protocol.

55. (new) The method of claim 54 wherein the protocol is the Internet Group Management Protocol (IGMP).

56. (new) The method of claim 49 wherein the allocated single wireless channel is a dedicated channel.

57. (new) The method of claim 49 further comprising:
receiving a negative acknowledgment from the one or more subscriber units from the multicast group; and
resending the multicast message to the multicast group.

58. (new) The method of claim 49 wherein only the multicast group decodes the multicast message transmitted over the single wireless channel.

59. (new) A subscriber unit in a multicast group in a wireless network, wherein the multicast group includes two or more subscriber units, the subscriber unit comprising:

a processor configured to receive a paging message, via one of a plurality of wireless channels, indicating an allocated single wireless channel associated with one or more connection identifiers over which to receive a multicast message, wherein the paging message is sent to the multicast group.

60. (new) The subscriber unit of claim 59 wherein the processor is further configured to receive the multicast message.

61. (new) The subscriber unit of claim 59 wherein the processor is further configured to receive the multicast message concurrently with the multicast group.

62. (new) The subscriber unit of claim 59 wherein the allocated single wireless channel is a dedicated channel.

63. (new) The subscriber unit of claim 59 wherein the subscriber unit only decodes the multicast message transmitted over the single wireless channel if it is in the multicast group.

64. (new) A base station for multicasting messages in a wireless network comprising:

a processor configured to:

(a) receive a multicast message addressed to a multicast group having two or more subscriber units;

(b) in response to the multicast message, allocate a single wireless channel associated with one or more connection identifiers from a plurality of wireless channels; and

(c) transmit to the multicast group, via one of the plurality of wireless channels, a paging message indicative of the allocated single wireless channel over which to receive the multicast message, wherein the paging message is transmitted to the multicast group.

65. (new) The base station of claim 64 wherein the processor is further configured to transmit the multicast message.

66. (new) The base station of claim 64 wherein:

the processor is configured perform a lookup in a routing table adapted to store entries associating the multicast group with an interface identifier; and

the processor is configured perform a lookup in an interface table adapted to associate the interface identifier with the at least one or more subscriber units, wherein each of the at least one or more subscriber units associated with a same interface identifier comprises the multicast group.

67. (new) The base station of claim 64 wherein:

the processor is configured to receive a join group request from a subscriber unit; and

the processor is configured to add an interface entry in an interface table indicative of an association between the multicast group and the subscriber unit.

68. (new) The base station of claim 64 wherein:

the processor is configured to scan the multicast message; and

the processor is configured to parse a group address to determine if the multicast message is for the multicast group.

69. (new) The base station of claim 68 wherein the group address conforms to a protocol and the multicast message is parsed by the processor in accordance with the protocol.

70. (new) The base station of claim 69 wherein the protocol is the Internet Group Management Protocol (IGMP).

71. (new) The base station of claim 70 wherein the allocated single wireless channel is a dedicated channel.

72. (new) The base station of claim 64 wherein:
the processor is configured to receive a negative acknowledgment from the one or more subscriber units from the multicast group;
and

the processor is configured to resend the multicast message to the multicast group.